

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 28, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Pastor Bob Szoke, Impact Christian Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Ms. LaMarca was absent. All other members were present.

Mr. Hardaway asked that we remember Senator John McCain and his family at this time of his passing and keep them in our prayers.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway referred to Mr. Lake. Mr. Lake read a letter from Congressman Pete Visclosky office congratulating the Town Of Merrillville on being recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as the 2017 Tree City USA Community.

Ms. Shine read the report for the Large Gathering Permit for Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the large gathering permit and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hardaway said September is Child Cancer Awareness month Proclamation was put into motion with the County as of last week. Mr. Hardaway thanked the Town personal for attending the Back to School event that was held at MIS it was a great turn out.

The Town of Merrillville recognized Shafer Pick-A-Part with a Commitment of Excellence Award for the most appealing facade for the month of August. Mr. Guernsey presented a plaque to Shafer Pick-A-Part in recognition of this honor; he also complimented the establishment on what a nice job they had done decorating the building.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated August 24, 2018. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2018. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk said the leaf pick up schedule will be in the next Town Newsletter.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac addressed the town attorney about how to require apartment buildings to install security lights in there parking lots due to recent crimes. Mr. Svetanoff said he will look into putting something together that is best to ensure residents safety.

Mr. Petruch reported that the Police Department participated in a Sobriety Check Point on Friday August 24th in front of Broadway Glass. Mr. Petruch said officers did an outstanding job and thanks the other departments that participated.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. Barron enter a motion for the town council president be granted the authority by this town council to enter into a purchase agreement for the following parcels 6700 Broadway, 66th Washington Street, 66th Broadway and 6535 Madison Street and that any offer to purchase shall be contingent upon the councils appropriations of the funds for the purchase and immediately engage environmental solutions group to provide a purchase one environmental study on the above mentioned parcels in the amount not to exceed \$1,700. Mr. Pettit seconded the motion with some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Uzelac said a new park will be put up on Route 30 and Whitcomb new equipment has been added to the park and old equipment has been torn down. Mrs. Uzelac said it is an added site for Route 30 and Whitcomb.

Mr. Minchuk thanked Ms. Olrich for painting a concrete wall that he asked her to check into located at Stephen Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron referred to Mr. Lake for a report. Mr. Lake reported that we were re-ranked under FEMA Community Rating System Program which still makes us best ranked in the State of Indiana.

Mr. Pettit said he received a phone call from a resident of Chapel Manor who is very appreciative of the work done on a ditch threw Chapel Manor and Forrest Hills. Mr. Pettit thanked Mr. Lake.

Mr. Lake said he will continue on with the work as well. Mr. Lake said he will be meeting up with NIPSCO trimming a primary line that runs along the ditch that contractors could not get to due to trees.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit made a motion that the Application for the Plat Amendment to Planned Unit Development for Brookstone be tabled at this time. Mrs. Baron seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann said NIPSCO cut trees over on 61st near the power lines. Mr. Spann said they did a good job but there was wood left that needs to be picked up. Mr. Spann said if it is not picked up soon he will contact NIPSCO.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway had no report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-18:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Cumulative Capital Improvement Fund for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-17:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indian, authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing funds to pay for certain capital projects and incidental expenses in connection therewith and on account of the issuance of the bonds. Appropriating the proceeds thereof and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 18-20:

A Resolution authorizing the disposal of certain real estate, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 18-21:

A Resolution authorizing a reduction in force within the Town of Merrillville Public Works Department, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner:	Edward and Shaurice Muir
Owner:	Wei Zhang
Request:	Special exception approval
Purpose:	To allow a church
Location:	5416 Broadway
Zoning:	C-2 Community Commercial
Case #:	Z29uV7-0818
Conditions:	For this petitioner only, at this location only, for this use only. This special exception approval will exist to the term of the presented lease agreement (3 years)

Ms. Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was some public comments and discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Jade Construction
Owner: Husky Lake Acquisition III LLC
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: To allow indoor climate controlled storage
Location: 7880-7890 Broadway
Zoning: C-2, Community Commercial
Case #: Z29uV7-0818
Conditions: For this petitioner only, at this location only, for this use only must install security cameras per Town Ordinance

Ms. Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was some public comments and discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Shaver Preferred Motors, Inc.
Owner: Barry Levin
Request: Special exceptional approval
Purpose: To allow used car sales
Location: 5713 Broadway
Zoning: C-2, Community Commercial
Case #: Z30E17-0818
Conditions: For this petitioner only, at this location only, for this use only must install security cameras per Town Ordinance

Ms. Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was some public comments and discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Steve Laird
Owner: HP WS-VI Merrillville LLC
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: LED electric message center
Location: 1500 East 83rd Avenue
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z31uV8-0818
Conditions: For this petitioner only, at this location only, for this use only

Ms. Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was some public comments and discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall Office Closed (except for Emergency Services) September 3, 2018 in observance of Labor Day
Stormwater Management Board meeting, September 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
Plan Commission workshop meeting, September 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
Police Commission meeting, September 7, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.
Town Council workshop meeting, September 11, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.
Redevelopment Commission meeting, September 11, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.
Town Council meeting, September 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer